## BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Bonogofsky v. Prouse

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

No. COPP-2010-CFP-33

Debra Bonogofsky of Billings, Montana filed a complaint with this office on September 3, 2010. The complaint was filed against Dan Kennedy, a 2010 candidate for the Republican Party nomination to the Montana House of Representatives from HD 57. The complaint included an allegation of coordination against "Dan Kennedy and also the other (WTP) supported candidates..." Ms. Bonogofsky has been consulted and, directs that her complaint also be filed against Wes Prouse, a 2010 candidate for Republican Party nomination to the Montana Senate from SD 23.

The Commissioner notes that this Office has completed investigations in 5 matters involving WTP supported candidates and issued 5 Decisions concerning coordination in 2010 primary election campaigns: Bonogofsky v.Kennedy, COPP 2010-CFP-015; Washburn v. Murray, COPP 2010-CFP-019; Ward v. Miller, COPP 2010-CFP-021; Bonogofsky v. Boniek, COPP-2010-CFP-027; and Clark v. Bannan, COPP 2010-CFP-023. These Decisions determined actions and evidence related to coordination and corporate contribution issues that are comparable to those raised in Ms. Bonogofsky's complaint. Further, in the course of investigating the above Matters the Commissioner found and

reviewed a number of documents concerning additional 2010 campaigns, including documents concerning Candidate Prouse's 2010 primary campaign.

By this Notice Candidate Prouse and the public are informed that, pursuant to the Bongofsky complaint, as well as pursuant to the Commissioner's continuing investigative authority under §13-37-111(2)(a) MCA and 44.10.307(3) ARM, the Commissioner will now consider in this Matter the coordination/corporate contribution allegations and issues addressed by or inherent in the 5 Decisions listed above.

With the above described focus in mind, a copy of the Western Tradition Partnership/Direct Mail ledger for 2010 Candidate Prouse campaign is attached to this Notice. That document, at a minimum, introduces the 8 candidate letters that constitute a substantial part of the sufficiency findings in the 5 Decisions listed above. Candidate Prouse is invited to review the ledger and respond. After investigation and consideration of the issues involved in this Matter the Commissioner will issue a Decision.

DATED this 24th day of January, 2014.

Jonathan R. Motl

Commissioner of Political Practices

Of the State of Montana

P. O. Box 202401

1205 8th Avenue

Helena, MT 59620

Phone: (406)-444-4622

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